



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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JANUARY 14, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOUR CLINTON, MO., RESIDENTS SENTENCED FOR METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that four Clinton, Mo., residents have been sentenced in federal court for participating in a conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

James D. Rush, 42, and **Larry D. Smith**, 35, both of Clinton, were each sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey on Jan. 12, 2005, to 10 years in federal prison without parole. On Sept. 7, 2004, both **Rush** and **Smith** pleaded guilty to their roles in the conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between Sept. 1, 2000, and April 7, 2004, in Henry County, Mo.

Max R. Hetherington, 42, also of Clinton, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey on Jan. 12, 2005, to five years in federal prison without parole. **Michelle R. Grier**, 37, also of Clinton, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey on Jan. 12, 2005, to nine months in federal prison without parole. On Sept. 17, 2004, both **Hetherington** and **Grier** pleaded guilty to their roles in the conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between Sept. 1, 2000, and April 7, 2004, in Henry County.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Rhoades. It was investigated by the Henry County, Mo., Sheriff's Office and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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